

‘How To’ Clean Room Video

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Kennedy Space Center

Major: Business Administration

KSC FO Summer

Date: 26 07 2013

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One of the projects that I am completing this summer is a Launch Services Program intern ‘How to’ set up a clean room informational video. The purpose of this video is to go along with a clean room kit that can be checked out by employees at the Kennedy Space Center and to be taken to classrooms to help educate students and intrigue them about NASA. The video will include ‘how to’ set up and operate a clean room at NASA. This is a group project so we will be acting as a team and contributing our own input and ideas. We will include various activities for children in classrooms to complete, while learning and having fun. Activities that we will explain and film include: helping children understand the proper way to wear a bunny suit, a brief background on cleanrooms, and the importance of maintaining the cleanliness of a space craft. This project will be shown to LSP management and co-workers; we will be presenting the video once it is completed.

I. Introduction

Coming into the Summer 2013 internship for the Launch Services Program at NASA was a huge deal and I was already very excited to start. I was already familiar with the people who worked there and I knew how much I would be learning this year. The interns last summer, including myself, had already made a name for us. We completed a video in a short amount of time about what the Launch Services Program meant to us and how we saw it in our eyes. Needless to say, everyone in the program loved the video. It was funny, witty and informative and clearly portrayed how we (as interns) saw the program and NASA as a whole. The video went “viral” and a lot of managers throughout the center saw it and really enjoyed watching this video. We did all the editing ourselves and really came together and worked in a team. Therefore, coming in this summer, we knew we had to top anything and everything that we did last summer. People in our program already knew our names and faces and had high hopes for us to come out with something amazing again.

We received news, shortly after our arrival this summer, in which we needed to film and produce another video. We were all instantly excited, thinking of the endless possibilities that we could do again or improve on from last summer’s intern video. We were also very skeptical because we were not sure on how we could ever top the video that we had already created. We did not have much direction or instructions when we first heard the news of having to produce yet another video, but we had already started getting to work on it. We watched last year’s video and critiqued it many times. We wrote down things that we loved about the video and things that needed to be worked on and improved. We spent a few meetings talking about things that we could possibly do differently this summer in order to make this new video more exciting and captivating. We wanted our audience this year to appreciate this film and really understand what we were capable of.

II. Creating, Learning and Filming

After many long discussions and watching our old video quite a few times, we finally heard our directions for this new video. Martha Vreeland wanted a ‘How To’ video on clean rooms to go along with her clean room kit. We were very confused at first because we had no idea what a clean room was or how this “kit” even operated. Many ideas and questions started rushing through our heads and we were not sure where to even begin with this project. We did not have much direction on where to go first, but with the help of a few people and having the right questions, we were able to pull together as a group and really understand where to get started.

A. Learning and Touring a Clean Room

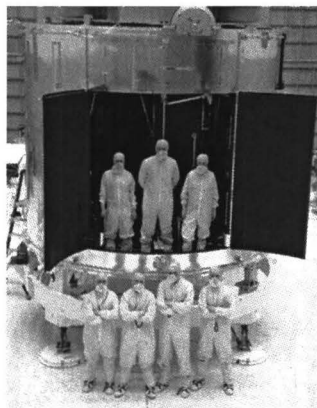
Our first task was to really understand what a clean room was. We has much help from people who worked around the center, we asked many questions and took a tour of a clean room. We set meetings with people and just listened to any information that they could give us. Once we heard a little general information about a clean room, we set up a tour of one. This was one of the best experiences that I have had this summer! We all got to dress in the bunny suits, go through an air shower, and walk into a clean room. It was a great time and we got to really learn, hands on, about a clean room. We were so excited to actually get to have the full experience.



Once we were armed with the knowledge on bunny suits and clean rooms, we were able to start brainstorming ideas for how we wanted the actual video to go. We all knew that we wanted something exciting, yet formative, but we had to follow set instructions this time. Following instructions for our video was very different from last year. Last summer we were able to come up with our own ideas and we had a lot more freedom with our video. This year, we had rules and had to follow an instruction packet so it could go along with the clean room kit.

We studied the kit very well so we knew exactly how to make the video work with it.

The clean room “kit” is a box that anyone can “check out” and take for educational purposes. The instructor will take this box to classrooms anywhere that they would like and will teach children/ teenagers about how a clean room at NASA operates. There are many fun games, modules, and examples that are designed to attract a child’s attention and peak their interest. There are also bunny suits and fun activities that the children will enjoy doing while they are learning as well. This is a great teaching tool for children and will hopefully make them more intrigued about NASA.



When we started to throw ideas around about how we wanted this video to look, we could not come up with a clear consensus about what we really wanted. This was very difficult for us because we had many different opinions and we were not sure on where to even start with filming. Last summer, we did all the editing ourselves so it took us awhile to come up with the complete and finished product. This summer, we were on a tight schedule and did not want to take the full two months to complete this assignment. We were torn with editing ourselves or getting outside help with the video.

B. Multimedia Studios

With much deliberation, we decided to get outside help from the multimedia studios. This was a great experience! We were able to take a tour of their studio and really see how creative we were able to get with their help. They made a huge difference in how we saw our possibilities for this project. We were able to ask many questions and have them show us their capabilities with filming and editing their movies, they were amazing.



Once we all had agreed that the multimedia studio would help us with our project this year, we needed to really sit down and come up with a clean vision for this video. It took us awhile to gather our thoughts and ideas and sort out what we wanted to do and what we absolutely did not want to go. We pulled together as a team and tried to get everyone's input and ideas heard. We wanted to make sure that no one's idea was left out and that we did as a group, not individually.

C. Creating the Story Board and Script

It took us a couple of meetings to come up with a story board and script. We had to follow the instructions packet that was given to us by Martha, so we wanted to make sure our script corresponded with the instructions. We knew that this video would be seen when someone went to check out the clean room kit, so it was very important that what we said in our video was the same as what was found in the packet. This was difficult for us to understand because last year we were free to make any script that we wanted; this year was a very different experience. We understood that we needed to really make this a great and easy to comprehend video since a lot of people would be seeing this once they were checking out the kit to take a school.

Once we were able to pull together and complete a full story board and script, we were able to start rehearsing each of our roles and lines. We practiced a couple of times before we went back to the multimedia studio and really got how we wanted our video to look and come across to our many audiences. When we were ready to go back to the studio, we had everything ready and started filming immediately.

D. Filming

This was very new experience for us, we had never worked in a real studio and talked in front of a camera and sat at a green screen. It was awesome and I will never forget the experience that I had working there; it was definitely new and fun! Some of the interns were nervous, but once we practiced a few times, everyone did a really good job. We were able to encourage each other and help each other out. We wanted our film to look really good and we were able to make that happen.



E. Editing

Once we had all of our different pieces the video recorded and put onto the computer, we were able to sit down with the people from the multimedia studios and explain to them how we wanted our video to be edited. The things that they could do in their studio with their equipment were endless. We had no idea how much they were really capable of. Last summer, we did all of the editing ourselves so we did not have the high tech quality that they had available. They were able to put music in the background and images behind us while we were speaking. They also were able to include interesting effects that would make the video more appealing to our audience's eyes.

F. The Finished Product

Once we were able to explain to them what we wanted in our video and how we wanted our message to come across, we left the rest of the project to them. We trusted them to make sure they were able to fulfill our vision and understand exactly what they needed to do. After a week and a half, they came back to us with a "finished" product. They did an amazing job, there were some little things that we suggested needed to be changed, but overall the video looked great! We were very pleased with all of the hard work and dedicated that we put into our project. We did not know much about a clean room, how one operated, or why we would even need them, but with

determination and pulling together as a team, we were able to jump those hurdles and come together to make a great project this summer.

III. Obstacles We Faced

There were many obstacles that we had to face throughout the creation, filming, and editing of our video project. First of all, we really had no clear direction when we first started brainstorming ideas and coming up with our vision. We did not know exactly what Martha wanted from us and we did not know how we were going to put it together for her. After having a few meetings with Martha, she explained to us very well what she wanted. We were able to jump the hurdle by communicating with her and each other about the video.

Another challenge that was presented to us was the time strain. We knew that we did not need to take the whole summer to complete this video. Last year, it took us the whole two months to complete the project and we did not want that to happen again this summer. We were told that it should be completed within one month, instead of two. This made us take this project very seriously in the beginning and really come up with ideas quickly. We were able to get through this difficulty by listening to what each other had to say and taking into consideration every one's ideas and opinions.

The last main obstacle that we faced was filming in less than three days. Not only did we have a busy schedule filled with meetings and our office's work, but we had to work with the multimedia studio's time schedule as well. This was very difficult because sometimes we had the availability to film or edit, but they did not and vice versa. We had to focus during the time we did have and take it very seriously in order to take advantage of the filming time. We quickly pulled through this obstacle and completed the filming and editing in the short amount of time that we did have.

IV. Conclusion

In conclusion, due to the many obstacles and challenges that we faced, we were able to pull together as one team and come out with a great product that everyone will really enjoy. We started with no idea on clean rooms and were not sure where to even begin with the whole project, but with research and asking the right people, we quickly gathered the knowledge that was needed to complete this task. We had many people help us along the way and we would have not been able to do this on our own. Using multimedia studios was one of the best choices that we made along the way. With their help and expertise knowledge about filming and editing, we were able to give this video a great look as well. This was a huge difference from the first video that we made last summer with many new challenges, but we were determined to make a great product and not let anyone down.

Acknowledgments

Kaley McCarty thanks...

Shaqueena Lewis, Mark Shugg, Martha Vreeland, Patti Powell, Anthony Gray, Michael Kerley, Linda Matthias, Patrick Orourke